

# **Workshop Titles and Descriptions**

# Access

## Know How 2 Go: Understanding the 4 Steps to College

Introduces students to four easy-to-remember college planning steps. It is designed to motivate and excite students about attending college by giving a general overview of the things they can do now to make their college dreams come true. Interactive and fun, this presentation uses games and activities to get students pumped up about postsecondary education.

Suggested audience: Middle school students, Parents

### Why College? What is College? What are my Options?

Builds upon the information introduced in KnowHow2Go, but can also be delivered as a stand-alone presentation. It is an interactive presentation that teaches participants about their postsecondary options, introduces them to financial aid terms, and gives them grade-appropriate suggestions for investigating college options and academic preparation.

Suggested audience: Middle school students, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade students, Parents

### **Preparing for College: Success Strategies**

Goes further into the steps students can take to prepare for college in three areas: academic, personal, and financial. It introduces students to the college process timeline, shows them how high school graduation requirements differ from the coursework they need to take to be college ready, and discusses standardized tests and other college admissions requirements.

Suggested audience: Middle school students, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade students, Seniors, Parents

# **Applying to College**

Introduces the components of the college application process. This presentation touches on the college application timeline, college options, what colleges are looking for in an applicant, finding the right college fit, preparing for and completing college applications.

Suggested audience: 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders, Seniors, Parents, Education professionals

#### **Writing College Essays**

Focuses on writing college application essays. It covers the role the essay plays in the college application, what admissions officers are looking for in an applicant, and writing tips to help the student convey who they are to colleges and scholarships. This session includes time for students to brainstorm essay topics and begin their writing process.

Suggested audience: 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders, Seniors

# Plan B: Didn't Get In, Can't Afford It

So you didn't get into your dream school or you can't afford it? What now? This presentation answers these questions and provides the steps students and their parents can take to still meet their postsecondary education goals.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents

# **Transitioning to College**

Learn how to successfully make the transition from high school to college. This presentation discusses living situations on and off campus, budgeting techniques to ensure financial aid lasts, study strategies, what to expect from the first year of college and where to turn for help when things do not go as planned.

Suggested audience: Graduating seniors

# **Affordability**

### **Paying for College**

Provides an overview of the costs of going to college, the different types of financial aid and how to access it. The content and delivery is modified to provide age-appropriate information and activities. If you only have the time to participate in one workshop, make it Paying for College.

Suggested audience: Middle school, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders, Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners, Education professionals

### **Winning Scholarship Strategies**

Discusses how scholarships fit into the world of financial aid and what best strategies students can adopt for winning them. This presentation cover the how, where, and when to scholarship searching and organizational skills to keep on top of applications.

Suggested audience: 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders, Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners, Education professionals

# **FAFSA 101: Understanding & Filing the FAFSA**

First in our FAFSA series. This presentation teaches participants how prepare for and file the FAFSA in order to access federal and state financial aid. Participants are walked through the actual FAFSA on the Web portal, better preparing them for their initial FAFSA filing.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners, Education professionals

### **FAFSA 201: Corrections, Special Circumstances & Next Steps**

Second in our FAFSA series. This presentation covers the next steps in the financial aid process following initial FAFSA filing and making corrections to the FAFSA, as well as the process of verification, common mistakes made while filing, and special circumstances around a student's dependency status.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners, Education professionals

#### **Understanding and Comparing Financial Aid Packages**

Walks students through their award letters while teaching them how to review, evaluate and accept a financial aid award package that is best for them.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents, Education professionals

### College Financial Literacy: Stretching Student Aid \$

Helps students learn the basics of budgeting so they can make the most of their student aid dollars. This presentation discusses the decisions students can make to shrink their cost of attendance, the strategies to use free or low cost resources around them, and different financial scams to expect while at school.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners

### **Student Loans 101: Understanding Loan Options**

First in the Student Loan Series, intended for individuals considering borrowing. This presentation prepares students to understand the rights and responsibilities of a borrower by explaining the different types of student loans, discussing responsible borrowing, and introducing potential repayment options.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners, Education professionals

### **Student Loans 201: Borrower Rights & Responsibilities**

Second in the Student Loan Series, intended for individuals close to or in their repayment process. This presentation reviews the borrower's rights and responsibilities, discusses the different repayment options and terms associated with each, and provides strategies and resources for the student considering repayment options or coming out of delinquency or default.

Suggested audience: Seniors, Parents, College students/Adult learners, Education professionals